SHOPPERS DRUG MART
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THE TORIES ARE HOPING THIS BUDGET FITS

FLAHERTY BRINGING ON CUTS IN FIRST FINANCIAL BLUEPRINT AS MAJORITY GOVERNMENT PAGE 12

WINNIPEG metro®
Thursday, March 29, 2012
News worth sharing.
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University of Winnipeg sociology student Julia Sotas rallies the estimated 200 students who gathered outside the school over the lunch hour Wednesday to protest expected cuts in the school's 2012-2013 operating budget. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Students say no way

University of Winnipeg. Proposed budget cuts have students seeing red

SHANE GIBSON
shane.gibson@metronews.ca

University of Winnipeg president Dr. Lloyd Axworthy was out of town during a noon-hour protest Wednesday against possible cuts in the school's upcoming budget, but he'll know they were there.

A large group of chanting demonstrators stormed administrative offices in Wesley Hall and slid placards under his locked office door following a demonstration outside.

"He can't ignore it," said 21-year-old second-year sociology major Arista Petkau, 21, minutes after helping shove signs under the door.

Axworthy is in Churchill until Friday taking part in a pre-scheduled conference. Petkau joined the demonstration of around 200 people because she's worried about cuts she's heard are coming to the school's faculty of arts, including the sociology department.

"I'm terrified.… How can I complete a degree with 12 less courses?" she asked. "All we're really hoping for is that the current existing faculty have their contracts renewed."

University spokesperson Diane Poulin said the budget process is not expected to be complete until June and wouldn't comment on the possibility of cuts.

Fashion fight: White vs. floral brights

Which spring style trend will you be choosing?
PAGE 18

Galaxy in the sky like a diamond

Scientists say dazzling new cosmic jewel is a cut above the rest PAGE 8

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BIZ and Impark team up with two patrol cars

Fighting crime.
Vehicles will patrol downtown area, focusing on reducing property thefts in lots

SEAN LEDWICH
winnipeg@metronews.ca

The Downtown BIZ is going mobile.

Winnipeg's Downtown Business Improvement Zone and parking-lot operator Impark have teamed up to put BIZ workers into two mobile patrol vehicles.

"Today we are announcing our inaugural watch mobile patrol, whereby two of our existing ambassadors will now become mobile," BIZ executive director Stefano Grande told media in front of the organization's Portage Avenue offices Wednesday.

The patrol cars, provided by Impark, will operate in the downtown area from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. and focus on high-traffic events and securing parking lots and parkades from property crime.

"While downtown crime represents only about five to seven per cent of all the crime that occurs in the city ... and crime continues to decrease in the downtown, we also recognize that crime does happen and the perception of safety continues to be a challenge," Grande said.

BIZ vice-chair Dave Stone said the downtown area will also be patrolled by 15 to 20 watch and outreach ambassadors, in conjunction with the vehicles.

"The downtown streets and sidewalks are patrolled 24 hours, 7 days a week," said Stone.

Sgt. Andy Golebioski of the Winnipeg Police Service was on hand and praised the mobile move.

"We have been provided with just one more tangible example of how our collective interests (create) a safer downtown for all of our residents and visitors now and into the future," Golebioski said.

According to BIZ, 13.5-million people visit downtown arts and entertainment venues each year.

BIZ executive director Stefano Grande rides shotgun to Bert Treller, Impark's general manager, in one of the new BIZ mobile patrol cars. SEAN LEDWICH/FOR METRO

Jury still deliberating in Stobbe trial

Accused Mark Stobbe.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

The jury in the murder trial of former political adviser Mark Stobbe has ended a second day of deliberations without reaching a verdict.

The 12-member panel met for about 10 hours Wednesday, and did not return to court to ask any questions of the judge.

Stobbe is accused of second-degree murder in the Oct. 24, 2000, death of his wife, Beverly Rowbotham, near Selkirk, Man.

The Crown alleges Stobbe attacked his wife with a hatchet in their backyard, then drove her body 15 kilometres away to make it look like she had been robbed.

Stobbe has denied the accusation, and testified that he fell asleep while his wife went out grocery shopping.

Stobbe was a high-ranking adviser to NDP governments in Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

The jury will reconvene Thursday morning to continue deliberations.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

By the numbers

15

Number of kilometres that the Crown alleges former political advisor Mark Stobbe drove the body of his wife, to make it appear as though she had been robbed in another location.

1 NEWS

Mobile news

Wondering how to dispose of your phone? Just ask it. Cities across the country are using smartphone apps to ease the process of tech recycling. Scan the code for the story.

On the web

Lunch is for disco dancing

Some workers in Sweden have found an offbeat way to spend their lunch hour Actually, on-beat is more like it. Disco lights, sweaty bodies and pulsating beats are all on the menu during the lunch-time dance parties that started in Stockholm and are spreading across Europe. Watch at metronews.ca/video

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Fraud case

Winnipeg woman accused in NHL ticket scam

A Winnipeg woman is facing fraud charges after police claim she sold NHL and concert tickets to victims online without actually delivering the goods. Police say the woman used a variety of online classified ads to sell tickets to four different buyers from across Canada.

Anita Lorraine Abrey, 37, was arrested on Tuesday in a Manitoba jail where she was being held on an unrelated matter, said WPS spokesperson Const. Jason Michalyshen.

Abrey is facing charges on four counts of fraud under $5,000.

METRO

Guard stabbed

Two women arrested after fracas at Safeway

Police have two women in custody after a security guard was stabbed during a robbery on Tuesday afternoon.

A 39-year-old male loss-prevention officer was working at the Safeway at 2155 Pembina Hwy. around 3 p.m. when he saw two women take merchandise and leave the store without paying, it's claimed

When he approached them, they became combative and one of the women allegedly pulled a knife and stabbed the man.

Police found the suspects a short distance away where they were arrested.

METRO

5 a.m. attack

Man robbed ... and they even took his shoes

Police are looking for several males after a man was robbed of cash and personal items — including his shoes — early Tuesday.

A 19-year-old man was walking near Pacific Avenue and Isabel Street around 5 a.m. when an unknown male asked him for a smoke.

During this time several other male suspects came up from behind and assaulted the victim.

Police say the man was injured during the attack. The suspects made off with his shoes, items of clothing, wallet and an undisclosed amount of cash.

METRO

Roads driving you mad? Sound off to the CAA

Let your voice be heard. Vote for the worst roads in your area — CAA Manitoba wants your input on potholes, bad signs, faulty traffic lights

SEAN LEDWICH
winnipeg@metronews.ca

Pothole alert! Perhaps this one on St. James Street near Ellice Avenue will be a contender in the disrepair category. SEAN LEDWICH/FOR METRO

CAA Manitoba is looking for a few good road rats.

The auto club's first-ever Worst Roads campaign lets Manitobans vote for their least favourite road or highway.

Since voting began Tuesday at 9 a.m., 865 verified votes have been cast.

St. James Street is winning with more than 120 votes, most over potholes.

Rounding out the top five: Marion Street, Kenaston Boulevard, McGillivray Boulevard and Molson Street.

When the campaign is over, CAA will deliver the results to municipal governments with jurisdictions that include the rotten roads.

"The main point of the whole campaign … is to bring this issue that affects every single one of us, every single day, to the fore," said Liz Peters, public and government affairs manager at CAA.

"We really want people to be thinking about this … input the road that they think is having the worst problems."

Voting is open to everyone, and it's not just relevant to drivers.

Pedestrian-cycling safety is one category people can point out when choosing their most pathetic pavement.

Bad signage, disrepair, traffic-light timing and congestion are other categories.

Each voter is entered into a weekly draw for a free oil change, and has a chance at a $500 car-care package after voting ends on April 24.

Vote at caamanitoba.com/worstroads or go to CAA's Empress Street office for a paper ballot.

20-year deal

Mounties are staying in Manitoba

The Manitoba and federal governments have finalized a deal that will keep the RCMP in the province for another 20 years.

The agreement includes new provisions that allow the province a say in everything from staffing levels to the purchase of new equipment, said Manitoba Attorney General Andrew Swan.

"If, for example, the RCMP wanted to get new security equipment … under the old agreement, the RCMP and the federal government would simply go ahead and do it, and Manitoba would have to pick up our share of the tab," Swan said Wednesday.

"Now, we'll be at the table."

The province will also have a say in any changes that would affect the number of officers working in Manitoba communities, Swan said.

The deal follows an agreement-in-principle announced last November involving nine provinces and territories where the RCMP serve as the main police force.

British Columbia and Newfoundland and Labrador finalized similar deals within the last week.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

How quitting smoking can pay off in cash prize

Enough already! Kicking this foul habit can net you cash, thanks to the Manitoba Quits initiative. All you have to do is go tobacco-free for the month of May. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Here's your chance to butt out, Manitoba.

The Manitoba Lung Association and the Manitoba government have teamed up to make quitting smoking pay off in cold hard cash.

The lung association along with Manitoba Healthy Living, Seniors and Consumer Affairs has kicked off the second annual Manitoba Quits contest, which gives smokers the chance to win cash prizes totalling more than $5,000 for going tobacco-free for the month of May.

"We know that many Manitobans want to quit smoking, but they need a helping hand," said Jim Rondeau, minister of healthy living, seniors and consumer affairs.

"The Manitoba Quits contest provides a little extra incentive to say no to tobacco and lower your risk of lung disease, cardiovascular illness and cancer."

Five quitters will be randomly drawn after the smoke-free period ends May 31.

And, after verification of their quit status, each will receive $1,000 in cash.

Roughly 200,000 Manitobans smoke, and the contest had 1,600 sign up last year.

This year organizers are hoping to see 2,000 quitters sign up.

The contest is open to any Manitoban smoker over 18 who has been puffing daily for at least a year, or smokers who've quit since Aug. 1, 2011.

Smokers have until April 30 to enter at the website ManitobaQuits.ca or by calling 1-888-566-5864.

METRO

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The National with Peter Mansbridge — **8 & 10 pm**

THE 2012 FEDERAL BUDGET

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Losing it in the air

A quick look at infamous flyers

JetBlue is reviewing its mental-health checks for pilots after Capt. Clayton Osbon went berserk at New York's JFK airport on Tuesday. Planes can have a funny effect on people, so we looked at some of the other worst-ever flyers.

Gerard Depardieu
The renowned French actor caused trouble on a Paris-Dublin flight last summer. As the plane was about to takeoff, Depardieu was denied entry to the toilets and so used a water bottle instead. Depardieu was escorted off the flight but explained the incident by saying, "I am an elephant."

RIM executives
George Campbell and Paul Alexander Wilson were high-ranking officials with the BlackBerry maker, but had to be tied up after drunken swearing and violence on a December flight. The executives then attempted to chew through the restraints.

Naomi Campbell
The supermodel subjected airport staff to a barrage of abuse after finding her bags had not been loaded at Heathrow in 2008. Police were called but Campbell kicked and spat at them, accusing them of prejudice because she was "black and famous." She received 200 hours of community service.

Alec Baldwin
Another actor with flight issues. The 30 Rock star was kicked off an American Airlines flight last year after refusing to stop playing Words With Friends on his cellphone.

KIERON MONKS/METRO WORLD NEWS

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Tony Antolino of Rye, N.Y., was one of four passengers who tackled and restrained the captain. JULIE JACOBSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pilot charged in midair incident

JetBlue airline.
Captain's bizarre behaviour forces passengers to act

A JetBlue Airways captain who sprinted through the cabin of a Las Vegas-bound flight screaming about terrorists, Jesus and Sept. 11 was charged Wednesday with interfering with a flight crew, federal authorities said.

Capt. Clayton Osbon told his co-pilot that "things just don't matter" shortly after JetBlue Flight 191 from New York departed Tuesday, according to an affidavit. Osbon, who was ultimately tackled by passengers while the plane made an emergency landing in Texas, told his co-pilot that "we're not going to Vegas" and began what was described as a sermon, the court documents said.

"The (first officer) became really worried when Osbon said, 'We need to take a leap of faith,'" according to the sworn affidavit given by an FBI agent. "Osbon started trying to correlate completely unrelated numbers like different radio frequencies, and he talked about sins in Las Vegas."

Osbon left the cockpit soon after and tensions on the plane began to escalate, according to witness accounts compiled by investigators. Osbon, described by neighbours in Georgia as tall and muscular, "aggressively" grabbed the hands of a flight attendant who confronted him and later sprinted down the cabin while being chased.

"Nobody knew what to do because he is the captain of the plane," said passenger Don Davis. "You're not just going to jump up and attack the captain."

But four men did just that, using seatbelt extenders and zip-tie handcuffs to restrain and pin Osbon to the floor for more than 20 minutes while the co-pilot and an off-duty pilot who was aboard landed the plane in Amarillo, Texas.

Breakdown

"Clearly, he had an emotional or mental type of breakdown."
Tony Antolino
A security executive who tackled the pilot

The charges against Osbon, 49, were filed in Texas. He was being held Wednesday at Northwest Texas Healthcare System in Amarillo and remains under a medical evaluation.

Under federal law, a conviction for interference with a flight crew or attendants can bring up to 20 years in prison. The offence is defined as assaulting or intimidating the crew, interfering with its duties or diminishing its ability to operate the plane.

JetBlue spokeswoman Allison Steinberg said earlier Wednesday that Osbon had been suspended pending a review of the flight.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S., Canada poised to OK Omar Khadr transfer

A "frustrated" Omar Khadr could be back in Canada by the end of May, with both Ottawa and Washington poised to approve his transfer from Guantanamo Bay, where the convicted war criminal has been held for almost a decade, The Canadian Press has learned.

A source familiar with the file said U.S. Secretary of Defence Leon Panetta was expected to sign off on the transfer within a week.

"It's on his desk, it's ready," the source said Wednesday. "The U.S. has no concerns about (Khadr)."

Khadr has been caught up in a bureaucratic "Catch-22" since becoming eligible to leave the American prison on Cuba last October under terms of a plea agreement struck a year earlier.

The Toronto-born Khadr, 25, pleaded guilty before a much-maligned U.S. military commission to five war crimes he committed as a 15-year-old in Afghanistan in July 2002.

In exchange, the Canadian citizen was given an eight-year sentence, with one year to be served in Guantanamo Bay and the remainder in Canada.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper's government has been in no hurry to approve the transfer request, which Khadr's lawyers submitted to both governments a year ago.

Instead, the source said, Ottawa has been scrutinizing the application far more closely than required, looking at issues such as his parole eligibility, which would essentially be almost immediate.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada's chief public health officer Dr. David Butler-Jones, left, speaks to B.C. provincial health officer Dr. Perry Kendall in 2009. Kendall calls for a new approach to federal drug policy. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Health officers slam drug policy

Criticism. Top municipal, provincial experts denounce federal strategy, call for an evidence-based approach

A number of leading figures in Canadian public health are criticizing the federal government's approach to drug policy, suggesting political ideology is trumping scientific evidence.

In a two-pronged attack, the chief medical officers of health for British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia published a commentary in the journal Open Medicine that calls on the government to rethink strategies like minimum mandatory sentences for minor drug-related offences.

And the Urban Public Health Network, a group that represents the chief public health officers in Canada's 18 largest municipalities, has announced its endorsement of the Vienna Declaration, which calls on governments to draft drug policies based on evidence of what works.

"Basically what we're saying is that we don't think that the model we're using is particularly effective," said Dr. Perry Kendall, British Columbia's chief medical officer of health. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Salient points

- Call for a drug-policy approach that deals with addiction as a health problem, not a criminal justice issue.
- There is no evidence that harm-reduction policies such as needle exchanges lead to increased drug use, wrote the chief medical officers.
- They pointed to Portugal as an example of a country that decriminalized drugs a decade ago but hasn't seen an increase in harm.

Million-dollar baby. Oz couple charged large for birth of child in B.C.

Australia's foreign affairs minister is looking into the case of a Sydney couple stuck with a million-dollar hospital bill after their daughter was born in Vancouver last August.

John Kan and Rachel Evans had taken out travel insurance and extra coverage for Evans' pregnancy without realizing the policy would not cover the birth or the baby.

They were about to return to Australia after their B.C. vacation when Evans went into premature labour at the airport.

Piper Kan stayed in the neo-natal ward of the B.C. Women's Hospital and Health Centre for three months and the bill ended up being about $1 million.

Evans said she is grateful for any help the government might be able to provide.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

By the numbers:

278

The number of years it will take the two to pay off the bill, in a negotiated plan with the hospital where they pay $300 a month.

Halifax. Court to decide on bail for officer accused of espionage

A Nova Scotia judge will decide Friday whether to grant bail to a navy intelligence officer accused of espionage.

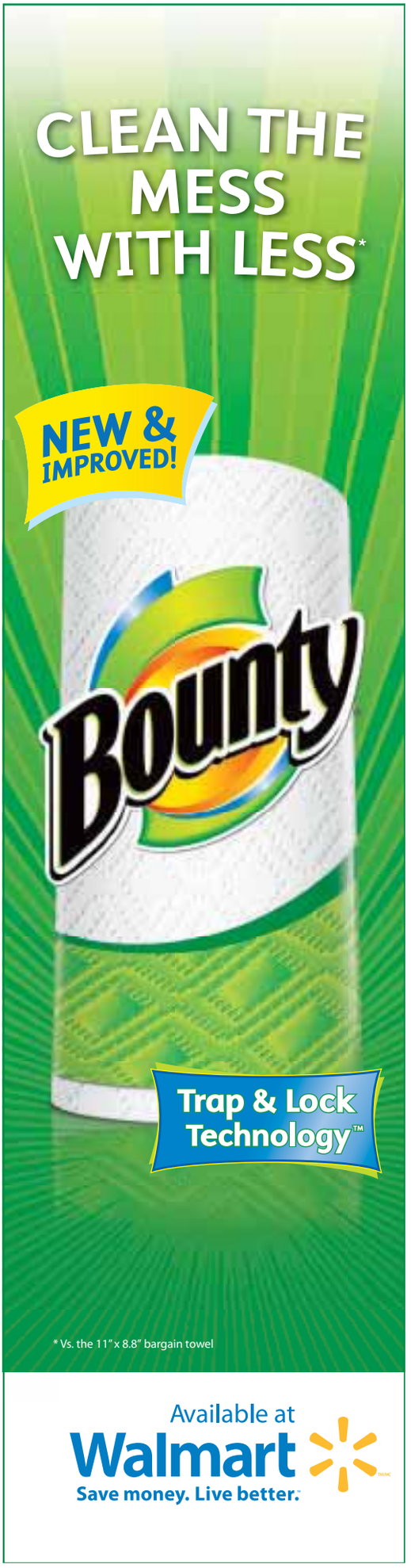
Sub-Lt. Jeffrey Paul Delisle appeared in Halifax provincial court Wednesday, charged with communicating information that could harm national interests. He has been in custody at the Central Nova Scotia Correctional Facility since his arrest in January.

Judge Barbara Beach granted the defence's request for a publication ban covering evidence presented at Delisle's bail hearing.

Sub-Lt. Jeffrey Paul Delisle. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Delisle was charged under a section of the Security of Information Act that was passed after the 9-11 attacks.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Galaxy resembles 'emerald-cut' diamond

Spotted. Shiny new galaxy dubbed Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds

It is the 74,886th galaxy in the Lyon Extragalactic Database (LEDA) of 1.5-million galaxies, but some people are calling the new rectangular cosmic jewel Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds.

"We did unofficially refer to it as the 'emerald-cut' galaxy" because of its striking resemblance to an emerald-cut diamond, Australian astronomer Dr. Alister Graham told the Toronto Star. That triggered the even more unofficial name from the old Beatles song.

And it fits, said Graham. When he and his colleagues first spotted LEDA 074886 some 70-million light years away, their reaction was "Wow, will you look at that."

Emerald

Its importance isn't just in its shape, Graham said.

- "In recent years there has been an increased awareness of blue elliptical-shaped galaxies," he said. "Perhaps up to four per cent of galaxies fall into this category."

The astronomers discovered the galaxy last year but are just reporting it now in the Astrophysics Journal.

The dazzling dwarf galaxy with its spinning deep blue core, blinding white "emerald-cut" surface and sparking red rim is an astronomic anomaly.

"Symmetrical rectangular galaxies are very unusual. We were very surprised to find it," said Graham. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The astronomers discovered the galaxy last year but are just reporting it now in the Astrophysics Journal. SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

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Do you take milk with your dog?

Beyonce, a Dachshund puppy vying for the title of world's smallest dog, is fed in a coffee cup during an interview on Wednesday in New York. Animal rescuers in Northern California say Beyonce was so small at birth that she could fit into a spoon. BEBETO MATTHEWS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

B.C.

Grab a java to get you going? Think again, study says

Research conducted by University of British Columbia psychologists is shedding new light on how amphetamines and caffeine affect the motivation of workers and slackers.

A study published in the journal Neuropsychopharmacology, has found that amphetamines, specifically speed, cause workers to slack off and slackers to work harder.

Caffeine, on the other hand, causes workers to slack off but doesn't seem to have any effect on slackers.

The findings have implications for people like long-distance truck drivers who use stimulants to remain vigilant for hours on end, said Jay Hosking, a PhD candidate and one of four people who worked on the project.

"What's working for some people may not be working for others," said Hosking.

The research took place at the university over nine months, starting in 2009, and involved 40 male rats.

Hosking said members of the team wanted to learn how people make decisions and why some people make different decisions than others.

"Every day at work and anywhere we're confronted with this thing where we can either work towards something or be satisfied with the status quo," he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fukushima measures high levels of radiation

Plant examination. State of two other reactors, which could be in far worse condition, unknown

Workers conduct radiation-dose measurement in the Unit 2 reactor's primary containment vessel at the tsunami-crippled Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant in Okuma, northeastern Japan. Unit 2 still had fatally high radiation levels and much less water to cool it than officials estimated. TOKYO ELECTRIC POWER CO./THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

One of Japan's crippled nuclear reactors still has fatally high radiation levels and hardly any water to cool its fuel, according to an internal examination that reinforces doubts about the plant's stability.

A tool equipped with a tiny video camera, a thermometer, a dosimeter and a water gauge was used to assess damage inside the No. 2 reactor's containment chamber Tuesday for the second time since the tsunami swept into the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant a year ago.

The data collected showed the damage from the disaster is so severe, the plant operator will have to develop special equipment and technology to tolerate the harsh environment and decommission the plant, a process expected to last decades. The other two reactors that had meltdowns could be in even worse shape. The No. 2 reactor is the only one plant workers have been able to closely examine so far.

Tuesday's examination with an industrial endoscope detected radiation levels up to 10 times the fatal dose inside the chamber. Plant officials previously said more than half of the melted fuel has breached the core and dropped to the floor of the primary containment vessel.

Particles from melted fuel have probably sent radiation levels up to a dangerously high 70 sieverts per hour inside the container, said Junichi Matsumoto, spokesman for Tokyo Electric Power Co. The figure far exceeds the highest level previously detected, 10 sieverts per hour, which was detected last year.

"It's extremely high," he said, adding that an endoscope would last only 14 hours in those conditions. "We have to develop equipment that can tolerate high radiation" when locating and removing melted fuel during decommissioning.

The plant is continuing to pump water into the reactor.

Video footage taken by the probe showed the water inside was clear but contained dark yellow sediments, believed to be fragments of rust, paint that had been peeled off or dust.

A probe done in January failed to find the water surface and provided only images showing steam, unidentified parts and rusty metal surfaces scarred by exposure to radiation, heat and humidity. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Other findings

- **Water level.** The containment vessel had cooling water up to only 60 cm from the bottom, far below the 10 m estimated when the government declared the plant stable in December.
- **Water surface.** A probe done in January failed to find the water surface. Finding the water level was important to help locate damaged areas where radioactive water is escaping.
- **Temperature.** The actual water level was way off the estimate. But the results don't affect the plant's "cold shutdown status" because the water temperature was about 50 C, indicating the melted fuel is cooled.

Severe weather ahead: Panel

Global warming is leading to such severe storms, droughts and heat waves that countries should prepare for an unprecedented onslaught of deadly and costly weather disasters, an international panel of climate scientists says in a report issued Wednesday.

The greatest danger from extreme weather is in highly populated, poor regions of the world, the report warns, but no corner of the globe — from Mumbai to Miami — is immune. The document by a Nobel Prize-winning panel of scientists forecasts stronger tropical cyclones and more heat waves, deluges and droughts.

The report blames the scale of recent and future disasters on a combination of man-made climate change, population shifts and poverty. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Neighbours look over the wreckage of a mobile home that was struck by a tornado March 23 near Opdyke in Jefferson County, Ill.
ALAN ROGERS/THE SOUTHERN ILLINOISAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Two of Canada's younger federal politicians are grabbing attention and raising money for the Ottawa Regional Cancer Foundation by trading their metaphorical political jabs for literal ones in a boxing ring this weekend. But with young people staying away from voting in droves, Metro decided to ask them and the NDP's youngest leadership contender if they have any ideas about how to hold the public's attention and attract more youth to politics.

METRO IN OTTAWA

Young politicos duke it out for youth engagement

Conservative Sen. Patrick Brazeau flexes his muscles outside Parliament in Ottawa. SEAN MCKIBBON/METRO

Young Tory senator fights in ring, on Twitter. There should be more young people in the Senate: Patrick Brazeau

Patrick Brazeau doesn't look like your archetypal senator — especially in his Twitter profile pic, showing off his generous, tattooed muscles.

Brazeau, 37, hails from Kitigan Zibi First Nation in Quebec, served in the Canadian Forces and was chief of the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples before he was the youngest Canadian ever named to the Senate in 2008.

Sober second thought doesn't necessarily improve with age, he said.

"Many people who've had long careers and are appointed to the Senate, obviously they have many things to contribute, but equally important is to have young voices in the Senate," he said.

He'll be fighting for the Conservatives when he boxes Justin Trudeau at an Ottawa Regional Cancer Foundation fundraiser on Saturday — something his older colleagues in the Senate aren't as able to do.

He often takes ideological fights with "leftists" to Twitter, engaging in flame wars with citizens, politicians and journalists.

"I'm certainly not a rebel, but I'm certainly not afraid of answering back in a factual manner as much as I can," he said.

Brazeau said he also uses social media to encourage young people — especially aboriginal youth — to get involved in politics.

"It's doubly hard to engage aboriginal youth," he said. "Aboriginal youth feel as though they are selling out to mainstream Canada and they may feel assimilated.

"I think it's the exact opposite effect. The more people who become engaged, it can only mean a better life for them."

JESSICA SMITH/METRO

Credibility

"I would hope that any youth would listen to any politician who would have a good and positive message, but I think that the fact that I am a little bit younger than most of my colleagues, it lends a little bit of credibility."

Patrick Brazeau
On engaging youth

Young Liberal MP fights to be more than a younger version of his dad. Developing own expertise, own sense of identity is important whatever field you go into: Justin Trudeau

Justin Trudeau certainly isn't the youngest MP kicking around the House of Commons these days. But no matter what his age, he will always be perceived as a younger version of his dad.

Except that's the comparison Trudeau is trying to distance himself from, looking to make his own mark in his third year as Liberal MP for Papineau.

"I bring my own aspects to politics on my own merits and I think that's very, very important for any young person going into any field — that they be able to develop their own expertise, their own sense of identity," said Trudeau, 40.

So what makes him stand out from his slightly older peers on Parliament Hill?

For one, he said voting isn't "cool" and doesn't want to make it appear cool either.

"You don't make voting cool, that's where everyone has failed," he said. "What you have to do is make voting important to young people. Make them understand that their voices matter."

Trudeau — who has more than 120,000 Twitter followers — said he can do that by engaging youth through social media.

A Twitter campaign is just the start, though. He said he wants to mobilize youth in the streets to get them more interested in politics.

JOE LOFARO/METRO

Mobilization

"If youth voted to 80 per cent turnout the way seniors vote to 80 per cent turnout, we'd never have another conversation about tuition fees in Parliament ever."

Justin Trudeau
On the youth vote

Justin Trudeau outside Parliament in Ottawa. SEAN MCKIBBON/METRO

Niki Ashton. CONTRIBUTED

Young NDP MP made a bid for party leadership. Being at the forefront encourages others to get involved: Niki Ashton

Niki Ashton isn't part of any literal boxing matches, but she stepped up as a contender in her party's biggest title bout — the race to replace Jack Layton.

Ashton sometimes — but not always — got more attention for her youth than her ideas in her NDP leadership bid.

"Some people looked at my age and thought it was a plus, and some people looked beyond my age," said the 29-year-old MP for Churchill, adding she's happy to be a standard-bearer for young Canadians.

"We've been told that we're the generation that may live less well-off than our parents, and I find that statement unacceptable," Ashton said. "I mean, we've got tremendous wealth, tremendous opportunity in our country and there's no reason we should be less well-off."

Ashton acknowledged young people are less likely to vote, but they're easier to reach through social media and issue-based campaigns. Seeing more people their age in politics, she said, also helps.

"More young people get involved when they see young people at the forefront and speaking out on the issues that matter," she said. "Our party, I'm proud to say, is one where if you turn on the TV and watch Parliament, we actually look like Canada. The same cannot be said for other parties that have very little representation from young people or women or the diversity of Canada."

STEVE COLLINS/FOR METRO

Visibility

"Jack Layton inspired many people, many young people particularly, to come out and be part of the process, and that's something that I very much want to continue."

Niki Ashton
On engaging youth

Be sure to go to metronews.ca for coverage of the Trudeau-Brazeau boxing match happening at the Hampton Inn in Ottawa at 8:30 p.m. Metro columnist Steve Collins will also be live tweeting the fight @metrottawa.

Meet some of Canada's youngest MPs

SEAN MCKIBBON/METRO

#1

Pierre-Luc Dusseault

NDP—Sherbrooke

Age 20

#2

Charmaine Borg

NDP—Terrebonne-Blainville

Age 21

#3

Mylène Freeman

NDP—Argenteuil-Papineau-Mirabel

Age 22

#4

Michelle Rempel

Con.—Calgary Centre-North

Age 31

#5

Pierre Poilievre

Con.—Nepean-Carleton

Age 32

#6

Andrew Scheer

Con.—Regina-Qu'Appelle

Age 32

#7

Scott Andrews

Lib.—Avalon

Age 37

#8

Jean-François Fortin

BQ.—Haute-Gaspésie-La Mitis-Matane-Matapédia

Age 38

#9

Justin Trudeau

Lib.—Papineau

Age 40

#10

Steven Fletcher

Con.—Charleswood-St. James-Assiniboia

Age 39

Everything old was once young too — including Parliament's Rat Pack

Old politicians were young once, too, and it's perhaps no surprise that many older prominent politicians in office (and some out of office) were once also hailed as the new young bucks of their day.

Following the Liberal party's defeat in the 1984 election to Brian Mulroney, a group of young and then relatively unknown Liberals gained prominence and was dubbed the Rat Pack. The group included Don Boudria, Sheila Copps, Brian Tobin and John Nunziata.

The Liberal party's Rat Pack, from left, Brian Tobin, Don Boudria, Sheila Copps and John Nunziata, joke with then-Opposition leader John Turner, centre, after giving him a Rat Pack T-shirt in his Parliament Hill office in 1985.
RON POLING/THE CANADIAN PRESS

In the late 1990s a group of Reform-party politicians, Jason Kenney, Rahim Jaffer and Rob Anders, followed in the Rat Pack's footsteps and were dubbed the Snack Pack because of their youth and penchant for eating junk food while talking policy. **METRO**

FOR MORE POLITICAL COVERAGE, VISIT METRONEWS.CA

Questions

Take our MP quiz

Test your MP smarts:

1. With 17 MPs under the age of 30 and an average age of 47.12, the NDP is collectively the youngest party in the House of Commons. Which is the oldest?
2. Pierre-Luc Dusseault (NDP-Sherbrooke) is not only the youngest MP in parliament, but the youngest ever elected in Canada. Who represented his riding on the day he was born?
3. Who is the youngest MP on the Conservative benches?
4. Who's the youngest Liberal?
5. Who is the oldest MP in the House of Commons?
6. The average age of the House dropped even further in February when this 37-year-old MP brought her infant son, Skander-Jack, into the Chamber. Who was she?
7. Speaker of the House Andrew Scheer is the youngest ever elected to the office. What is his official job description?
8. Who is the youngest party leader in the House of Commons?
9. Who is the youngest person ever appointed to the Senate?
10. Youngest minister in the Harper cabinet?

MP quiz answers

How well do you know your MPs?

1. Unless you count the one-member Green party (leader Elizabeth May is 57), the Liberals are the oldest party, with an average age of 54.56 years. The Conservative caucus averages 51.91 years.
2. On May 31, 1991, Quebec Premier Jean Charest.
3. Charlotte Rempel (Calgary Centre-North) is the youngest Conservative MP at 31.
4. Scott Andrews (Avalon, Newfoundland and Labrador) is 37.
5. Conservative Ray Boughen (Palliser) is the House of Commons' most senior member at age 74.
6. Sana Hassainia (NDP-Verchères-Les Patriotes). She named Skander-Jack in honour of NDP leader Jack Layton.
7. "Chair Occupant."
8. Prime Minister Stephen Harper, 52.
9. Liberal-Conservative William Miller was 32 when he went to the Red Chamber in 1867. He stayed until his death in 1912 at the age of 77.
10. Heritage Minister James Moore, 35.

Bureaucracy to bear brunt of cuts: Flaherty

Federal budget. Conservative sources say spending cutbacks likely to total $7 billion in annual savings by the 2014-15 fiscal year

Sources and officials agree Flaherty's seventh budget — and first with a parliamentary majority to back it — will be his longest and most far-reaching, laying the foundations for a business-friendly Canada with smaller government and curtailed social entitlements.

The finance minister said much of the burden of cuts will fall primarily on the public service — which will shed tens of thousands of jobs — insisting services to Canadians will be mostly left untouched.

The budget will also seek to curtail long-term spending by slowing the growth of entitlements such as elderly benefits under Old Age Security, building on December's decision to limit future health-care transfers to the growth in the economy.

Reports suggest Flaherty also intends to give notice to the public-service unions they must pay more for their indexed pension plans.

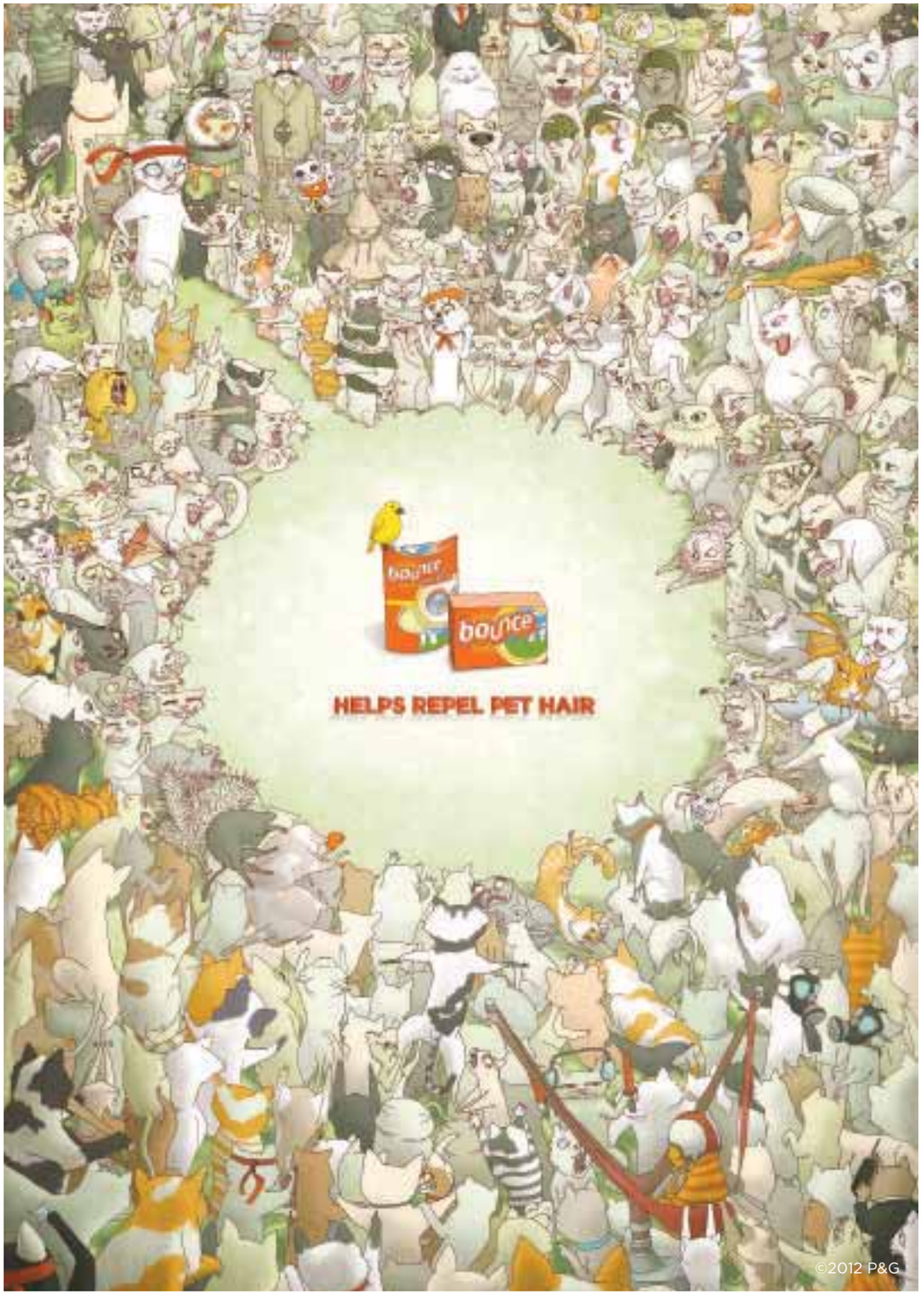
And the CBC will likely see its wings clipped, by anywhere from five to 10 per cent of the annual $1-billion funding.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cost-cutting

"There are (service) consequences, but most of it is back-office stuff."

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty, on forthcoming cuts in the federal budget



Finance Minister Jim Flaherty tries on a pair of new shoes Wednesday in Ottawa ahead of his budget delivery Thursday. FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Budget crunch

MPs trim own spending by $30M

The House of Commons announced its own belt-tightening plan on the eve of the federal budget.

The secretive board of internal economy, an all-party committee that oversees MP budgets and the operation of their offices, says spending will decrease by 6.9 per cent — or $30.3 million — over the next three years.

The cuts include a reduction in MP office budgets of under two per cent, slashing the budgets of opposition party leaders by 7.5 per cent, travel savings and the end of an office furniture fund.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Moment

DOLLAR
100.21¢ US
(-0.3¢)

TSX 12,413.86 (-98.18)

OIL $105.41 US (-$1.92)

GOLD $1,657.90 US (-$27.00)

Natural gas: $2.191 US (-1.7¢)
Dow Jones: 13,126.21 (-71.52)

Manufacturing. Toyota to invest $80 million in Woodstock, Ont., plant

Toyota's Canadian manufacturing arm announced Wednesday it will invest $80 million to increase production at its Woodstock, Ont., assembly plant, a move it says will create some 400 new jobs.

Toyota Canada said it will ramp up production of its RAV4 crossover vehicles to 200,000 vehicles at the plant by early 2013, an increase from the current annual capacity of 150,000 vehicles.

The Woodstock facility currently employs about 2,000 workers.

Toyota has faced production problems due to last year's earthquake and tsunami in Japan and massive flooding in Thailand that cut parts supplies and slowed down their global output, even in Canada.

But sales have begun to spring back recently, with Toyota Canada reporting sales rose 31 per cent year-over-year in February with 12,384 Toyota, Lexus and Scion vehicles sold.

The company has already announced plans that the first Toyota electric vehicle to be built in North America, the RAV4 EV, would be made in Woodstock beginning this year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Homeowners sweating over rates: Study

BMO survey. 57 per cent of respondents believe they could still afford their homes if interest rates were to spike by two per cent

Four in 10 Canadians would be unsure about whether they could afford their homes if their mortgage rate went up by as little as two percentage points, according to a new study from the Bank of Montreal.

The survey, compiled for BMO by Leger Marketing, found 43 per cent believe a increase from three per cent to five per cent would either hamper their ability to pay or leave them on unsure footing.

The survey was conducted Feb. 21 to 23, two weeks before BMO sparked a round of special rate reductions among Canadian banks.

The survey's results were announced a day before the five-year special rate ended on Wednesday.

BMO's special dropped the five-year rate by half a percentage point to 2.99 per cent from 3.49 per cent and other banks followed.

Since then, Royal, TD and National banks have announced their five-year posted rates will go up on Thursday to 5.44 per cent — an increase of nearly 2.5 percentage points from the sale price.

"At first when you look at this, you think, 'Oh, my goodness, that's pretty scary,'" said Laura Parsons, a mortgage expert at BMO.

"But if we get clients in to take a good hard look at how they're spending their money, I think they'd find that extra two per cent in their budget — it would just mean they'd have to cut back on certain things."

One in five Canadians surveyed said a two-percentage-point rise would hurt their ability to make mortgage payments, while 23 per cent said they were unsure whether a rise would affect them.

The study, which surveyed some 1,500 Canadians in February, has a 2.5 per cent margin of error 19 times out of 20.

The survey findings come as some of Canada's biggest banks begin raising variable mortgage rates, even though the Bank of Canada's overnight interest rate remains unchanged.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Household debt

The era of cheap borrowing has encouraged many Canadians to take on houses they may not have been able to otherwise afford.

- Both Finance Minister Jim Flaherty and Bank of Canada Governor Mark Carney have recently flagged the danger to the economy of Canadians becoming increasingly indebted, mostly through taking advantage of low rates to buy homes or take out home-equity loans.
- In a report issued last week, Doug Porter, deputy chief economist at BMO Capital Markets, and colleague Benjamin Reitzes argued that with the U.S. recovery gathering steam, central bankers on both sides of the border are becoming more comfortable with the economy and less so with historically depressed interest rates.

Retail. Reitmans' quarterly profits, sales down

Clothing retailer Reitmans reported a steep drop in profits and sales during its most recent quarter as shoppers cut back spending and the company saw margins squeezed.

The Montreal-based company said net earnings for the three months ended Jan. 28 were $4.7 million, or seven cents per share, compared to the $13.8 million, or 21 cents per share, it earned during same period a year earlier.

Sales in what was the last quarter of the company's 2012 financial year were just under $260 million, compared with $268.7 million a year ago, as same-store sales fell 1.7 per cent.

The company's gross margin for the quarter was 64.4 per cent, down from 66.9 per cent a year ago, as a stronger Canadian dollar was offset by increased promotional activity.

Reitmans shares fell 20 cents to $15.89 on the Toronto Stock Exchange Wednesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Labour

Union fights Target Canada hiring policy

The United Food and Commercial Workers Union says Target has told Zellers employees that they are welcome to reapply for the same job once the American chain takes over 100 Zellers stores next year.

Spokesman Derek Johnstone says that isn't fair to employees who have been in the same store, doing the same job for many years.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Expansion

Canadian Helicopters seeks global deals

Canadian Helicopters Group hopes to use its acquisition of Helicopters (N.Z.) Ltd. last year as a model for future deals as it looks to grow its business around the world, chief executive Don Wall said Wednesday.

The deal for HNZ gave the Montreal-based company a base in New Zealand and Southeast Asia from which to build its business.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Weather may sap maple-syrup producers' profits

Emile Picard samples some fresh maple syrup at the Au Pieds de Cochon sugar shack in St-Benoit-de-Mirabel, Que. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Some of Canada's maple-syrup producers say they're expecting a financial hit as recent warm weather cut the season short this year, but the price that consumers pay for the sweet stuff should remain stable.

"We don't want consumers to think it's absolutely not out there anymore, but there's less," said Ray Bonenberg, president of the Ontario Maple Syrup Producers Association.

It shouldn't affect the price, Bonenberg said, adding there was a small increase in the price of maple syrup last year and the price is set every couple of years.

"A lot of the product is already sold and you charge the price that you would normally expect to charge," Bonenberg said from his farm near Pembroke, Ont.

"Most producers are not about capitalizing on a shortage and shoving a lot of that on the consumer."

Ontario's maple syrup producers are producing anywhere from 20 per cent to 50 per cent or so of what they normally make, he said. Ontario produced about two million litres of maple syrup last year.

Along with Ontario, the provinces of Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia are Canada's major producers and they all had an early start, and in some cases, an early end to the season due the recent unseasonable temperatures. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Syrup season

- In New Brunswick, if the weather co-operates, production should reach last year's level.
- In Quebec, Canada's biggest producer of maple syrup, production has wrapped up early except for the eastern side and quantities are down in the southern area.

REACH DEEPER INTO YOUR POCKETS, MR. FLAHERTY

HE SAYS...
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca/hesays

I'm concerned about the federal budget, which is fortunate because the more concerned I am about something the easier it is to reach my word count.

As I write this, journalists are using all their skills (begging *and* whining) to get "government sources" to tell them budget details before today's official announcement. But I know how it will go:

1) Finance Minister Jim Flaherty will explain that the budget is a fiscally conservative plan (except for the prisons and jets part) and that it will create jobs (except for the jobs-cuts part), and that it shows that Canadians have a bright future (except that we're one step away from DOOM and only the Conservatives can protect us).

2) The opposition leaders will, using talking points they wrote three weeks ago, explain that Flaherty has the same moral standing as, say, Satan, and that the budget document is the worst thing they've read since Twilight.

3) The opposition will vote for it anyway.

I don't know about you, but this era of deep cuts is starting to get me down.

RENE JOHNSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

There's the world economic collapse, where countries like Greece decide they can't have nice things anymore and burn them.

There's provincial woes, where places like Ontario have budget speeches that read like eulogies.

And in Toronto, where I live, the only thing approaching economic good news is when sports fans win free pizza because the Raptors score 100 points. (Rumour has it the Leafs have a similar promotion, but it's been lost to the mists of time).

It's getting to the point where we should really give up on the tradition of finance ministers buying new shoes on budget day. Instead, he or she should pose for newspapers with a nice, shiny axe.

I'm trying to take a pragmatic, level-headed approach to the cuts, which is why I offer the following advice to Mr. Flaherty. Forgive me if this is trite, but I think the government should — this is important, write it down — wear a lot of jackets.

I'll explain. I, like Canada itself, am in debt up to my earmuffs. But I just made some money back, as I do every spring, because I pulled out a spring jacket and discovered a crisp $5 bill. Pretty sweet.

Clearly, all MPs should carry the federal coffers in their jacket pockets. Then wait till next spring and reap the surprise windfall.

This works so well for me that I'm thinking about getting more jackets to increase my return. I'm pretty sure Ben Bernanke does this as well.

Frankly, Mr. Flaherty, I see this as our only hope. If you don't agree, I'll be deeply concerned. At least until I hit my word count.

Now.

What goes up ...

GEOFFREY ROBINSON/REX FEATURES

Off course

Teen pilot flies balloon into pylon

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, U.K. Three people were saved by rescue crews after a hot-air balloon dramatically crashed into 132,000-volt power cables. Freakish winds sent teen pilot Adam Griffiths and his two companions toward overhead lines near the village of Bozeat, some 100 kilometres north-west of London. **MWN**

Hanging on a wire

"There was a bang and a little bit of a fire in the basket, but it put itself out as I went to grab the extinguisher. We slid down the power line and came to a standstill."

PILOT ADAM GRIFFITHS
WHO SUFFERED MINOR BURNS

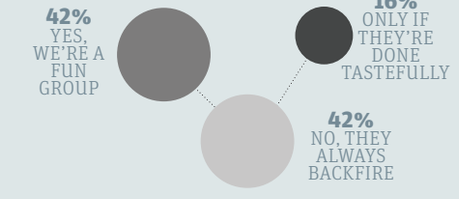
Hot-air boom

- **In numbers:** The trio were dangling from the overhead lines 13 metres above the ground for five hours, while emergency teams worked to switch off power lines.
- **How they passed the time:** The stranded balloonists played I Spy as they waited to be rescued. "But after we had 'g' for 'grass' and 'p' for 'pylon' we didn't have many more ideas," Griffiths said.

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Do you do any April Fool's Day pranks at your work?



Twitter

@CherryTree_B: A mechanical bull and the @NHLJets hockey game tonight? Ha! Can't get any better than that #ridethebull #gojetsgo

@GoldeyesGM: New giant angry fish now on the wall in suite 16 at Shaw Park! Thanks @Fathead

@WinnipegHarvest: #winnipeg, We are so grateful for the overwhelming response from the community regarding our urgent plea for non-perishable items!

@kathxjohnson: Back in #winnipeg. I miss the north already. Green grass?! What is this?! #snowplease

@AngryWinnipeger: if April showers bring May flowers then what did March showers bring? #winnipeg

metro

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Jazz vocalist recreating Leonard Cohen's Hallelujah on stage

Musical community. Cover show of Canadian legend has received a huge, positive response in the past

BACKSTAGE PASS
Jared Story
winnipeg@metronews.ca

Hallelujah! Anna-Lisa Kirby sings Leonard Cohen songs Saturday at the Park Theatre.

Presented by Jazz Winnipeg, the show marks the second time the jazz vocalist has covered the Canadian singer-songwriter for an entire concert.

"We did it in November of 2010," says Kirby, 43, coordinator of the jazz studies program at the University of Manitoba. "Karla Berbrayer programs the Music 'N' Mavens series at the Rady JCC and she started this thing called Tarbut: Festival of Jewish Culture a couple years ago.

"Four or five years ago my husband (Steve Kirby, University of Manitoba's director of jazz studies) wrote an arrangement of Leonard Cohen's Hallelujah for me and people really responded well to it. Then we did a version of Bird on a Wire and people really loved that arrangement as well, so Karla asked how I felt about doing a whole concert of Leonard Cohen's music for Tarbut and I thought that sounds interesting. Little did I know what I was getting myself into."

Kirby says covering Cohen in concert is a daunting task, but absolutely worthwhile. The Tarbut show sold-out and introduced her to a whole new audience.

"Strangely enough I didn't know any of the people in the audience," Kirby says. "The people who came to that concert were either people from the Jewish community that were excited about the festival or just Leonard Cohen fans. Usually I know a lot of people in the audience, but my regular fan base couldn't get tickets because it sold-out and they didn't buy tickets soon enough. Hopefully this time around they'll get tickets."

Accompanying Kirby onstage will be bassist Steve Kirby, saxophonist Jimmy Greene, trumpeter Derrick Gardner, pianist Will Bonness, guitarist Larry Roy and drummer Quincy Davis. Kirby says every member of the band, including herself, had a hand in the arrangements.

"I'm loving the diversity of the arrangements," Kirby says. "Hallelujah is one of the most covered songs in the history of covered songs, but I think my arrangement is pretty unique. I've listened to many arrangements and I haven't heard anybody else do it in 5/4 time so that's one thing that's unique about it."

Tickets for Anna-Lisa Sings Leonard Cohen are $30 at the door. Showtime is 8 pm.

Other events

What else is going on?

- **Show.** Cancer Bats play the Pyramid Cabaret tomorrow night. The Toronto-based hardcore punk/metal band is set to release its fourth studio album. Tickets are $16 at Into the Music, Kustom Kulture and ticketworkshop.com.

Jazz vocalist Anna-Lisa Kirby covers Leonard Cohen songs Saturday night at Park Theatre. LUCIA MADARIAGA-VIGNUDO

2

SCENE

Scene in brief

Robin Gibb undergoes surgery

Bee Gees star Robin Gibb has undergone further surgery following a sustained illness, a publicist said Wednesday. Gibb is recovering in the hospital after intestinal surgery over the weekend and has been forced to cancel a number of commitments, publicist Doug Wright said. Gibb, 62, was hospitalized late last year for stomach and colon problems, but told the BBC last month he was making a good recovery. He did not disclose the nature of his illness, but said a growth on his colon had been removed.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the Web

Canadian DJ Deadmau5, Madonna declare a truce on Twitter

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Showing some love to La Belle Ville

TV. Celebrity chef Anthony Bourdain loves Montreal's 'uniquely crazy' food

When celebrity chef Anthony Bourdain was compiling his list of international cities to feature on the TV show The Layover, Montreal was a no-brainer for inclusion.

That's because the city's cuisine is "uniquely crazy, uniquely individualistic and rugged and excessive and wonderful," according to the New York City native.

"It says Canada to me," he added during a recent telephone interview.

The premise behind the The Layover was simple but highly challenging: Bourdain spent between 24 and 48 hours in each of 10 cities and packed in as much hard living as the liver and the rest of his body could take.

Viewers are taken off the beaten track as Bourdain, who has also written several books and stars in Anthony Bourdain: No Reservations, shows them where to visit and where to stay around the globe.

The Montreal episode also includes debate on whether its bagels are better than New York's, as well as adventures involving dragon boats and surfing on the St. Lawrence River.

"We were looking to do something fast and different, and a little scary, something that challenged and pushed us," says the 55-year-old.

But was it fun?

"Most of the time," is his immediate reply.

"It was difficult. Essentially, it's eight days of serious eating and drinking compressed into two (for the purposes of) the show.

"That's tough. It was very physically demanding and a little intimidating, a little frightening to embark on a bold new venture like that, especially when you're eating and drinking as much as I was."

The series has aired in the United States and gets its Canadian debut on Travel + Escape on April 11. The Montreal episode is set for broadcast May 2.

Bourdain has fond memories of Montreal dating back to a book tour in 2001 when local chefs took him under their wing.

"I knew we could make a good show there and have a good time doing it. It's my favourite city in Canada.

"I love the chefs there," he says, ringing off the names of Martin Picard (Au Pied de Cochon) Normand Laprise (Toque) Frederic Morin and David McMillan (both Joe Beef) as some of the outstanding ones.

"It's the most uniquely Canadian food in Canada. In Vancouver the cuisine is a very strong mix of great Asian food from all over Asia, a lot of great homegrown stuff, but the cuisine in Montreal could exist nowhere else other than Quebec.

"It looks and tastes different from food anywhere else and the chefs, particularly when you're talking about Martin or Fred or Dave, are unlike chefs anywhere else."

Bourdain has plans to do another season of The Layover this summer and Canada's largest city will be getting in on the fare.

"Toronto will be on the list for sure," he says of a city he has visited several times but never featured on any of his shows.

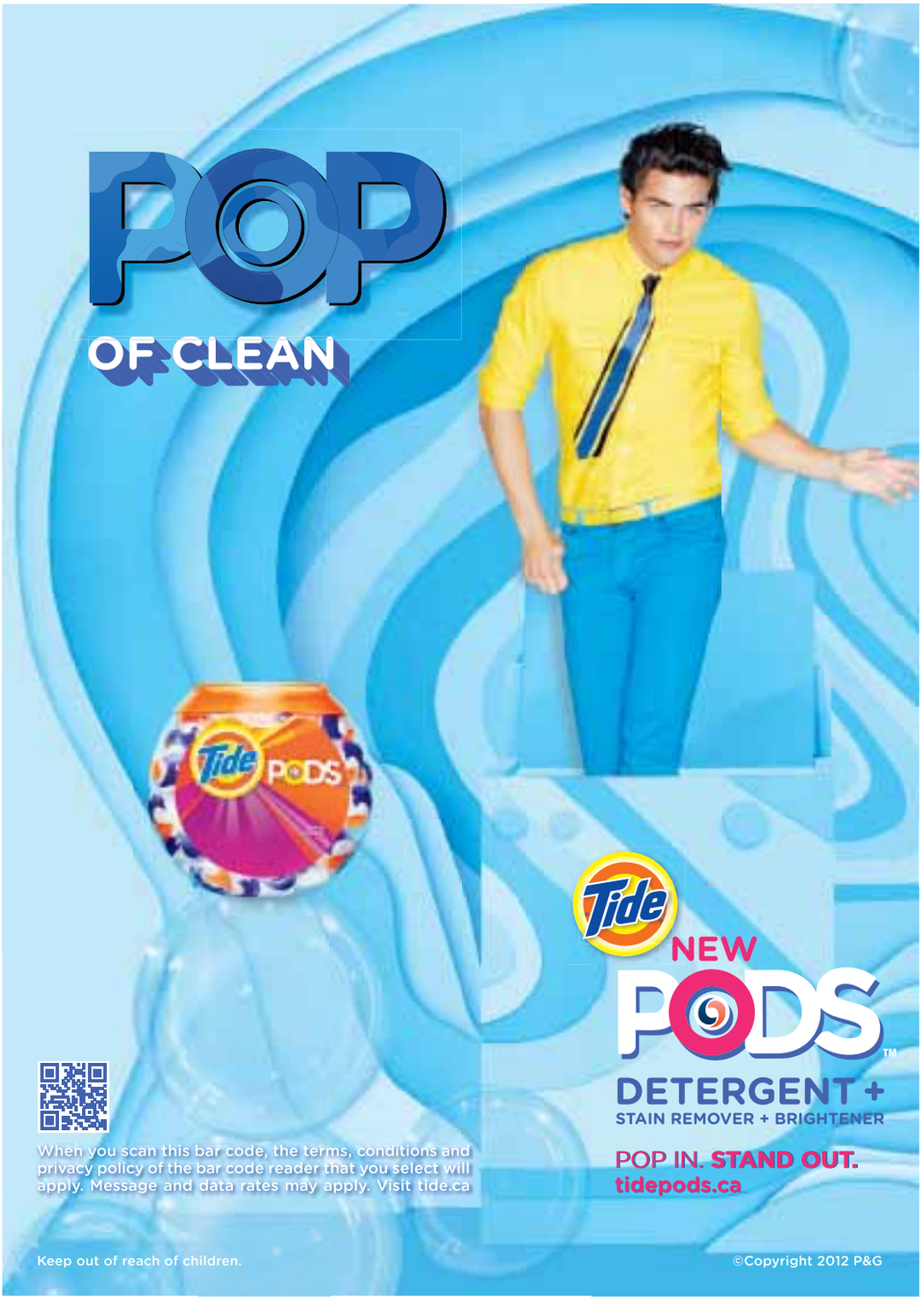
Bourdain says that when he talks to journalists and chefs from elsewhere in Canada, he always hears trash talk about Toronto.

"I feel sort of an obligation to highlight that there is indeed good food there and good people, as I know from personal experience," he says. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Layover

- The other cities where Bourdain lived large for the series were New York ("the greatest city in the world," he says unabashedly), Singapore, Hong Kong, Miami, London, Rome, Amsterdam, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Anthony Bourdain PETER KRAMER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS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Tide PODS
Tide
NEW
PODS
DETERGENT +
STAIN REMOVER + BRIGHTENER
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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Justin Bieber

Bieber's phone prank lands him in hot water again

Justin Bieber's latest Twitter antics are causing him some legal trouble.

Bieber posted a random phone number — minus the final digit — and wrote: "Call me right now."

Two Texas residents reportedly received more than 1,000 phone calls and are now suing the Canadian pop star for damages due to "reckless behaviour," according to Hollyscoop.

What kind of damages are we talking about? Millions? No.

They're reportedly after tickets to a Bieber concert, an apology and an endorsement of an online business run by one of the plaintiffs, among other things.

Twitter

@ParisHilton
At the airport about to take off to Sydney! Haven't been to Australia in a long time, so I'm very excited for this trip! Love it there!

@jimmyfallon
I once was talked into getting a perm. (I was in college & it was free.)

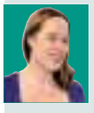
@katyperry
don't believe in the hype.

@SethMacFarlane
There's nothing more grungy-looking than a red-headed person in a '70s movie.

The Word

She's a smooth operator. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

What is going on with Bethenny Frankel's marriage?



THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

There are few reality TV stars who know how to game the system as well as Bethenny Frankel.

Her ambition is awe-inspiring: She's risen from a throwaway contestant on 2005's The Apprentice: Martha Stewart, to, despite not being married, one of the original five "housewives" on The Real Housewives of New York City.

From there, she wrote several New York Times bestselling books, starred in two spin-offs, Bethenny Getting Married? and Bethenny Ever After, and founded the company Skinnygirl Cocktails, which she sold last year for an alleged $120 million dollars.

But is she so driven that she's letting her marriage to husband Jason Hoppy suffer?

That's what In Touch is reporting. They say that Hoppy has moved out of their New York City apartment and is staying at a nearby hotel. They report that Hoppy is claiming he ditched the $5 million Tribeca condo he shares with Frankel and their 23-month-old daughter, Bryn, because of renovations.

But a source thinks he also left because he's fed up with Bethenny's diva behaviour.

"The fighting has gotten worse," the source tells In Touch.

Apparently, Frankel has become overly obsessed with the launch of her L.A.-based talk show.

"Her energy has been nervous and neurotic," the source says. "He can't take it anymore, so he's been doing everything on his own."

Or, this drama could just be fabricated in order for fans to train their attention back on Frankel in time for her talk show, set to launch in September.

She's witchy that way.

Lindsay Lohan

Lindsay Lohan facing another legal battle

With her probation set to end today, Lindsay Lohan is bracing as another legal battle heats up.

Thaer Kamal has reportedly handed over surveillance footage he claims shows the actress hitting him with her car and then driving away outside a Hollywood hookah lounge, according to Radar Online. And Kamal's lawyers may be interested in more than just a hit-and-run investigation, as reports recently surfaced that Kamal has a history of insurance fraud, something he vehemently denies.

"Thaer feels that Lindsay's camp has bullied him by making up stories that he was being investigated for insurance fraud," a source says. "(His lawyers) will be investigating who made those false statements about Thaer being the focus of insurance fraud investigations and will take the appropriate legal action against those responsible for the false and defamatory comments if necessary."

Megan Fox

Megan Fox rumoured to be pregnant

After answering a slew of parenting-related questions while promoting Friends with Kids, Megan Fox is reportedly expecting her first child with husband Brian Austin Green, according to Star magazine.

"They just found out," a source claims, "And are incredibly excited."

The happy couple won't be sharing the news just yet, though, the source warns. "It's still early, so they are only telling close friends and family members."

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SHOPPERS DRUG MART

3 LIFE

Fashion flash

Emerging icon

The Hunger Games star Jennifer Lawrence is not only replacing Kristen Stewart as Hollywood's most popular teen heroine, but she's out dressing her too. And that Vogue cover will be coming in three, two...

Attention needed

Katy Perry and Karl Lagerfeld's man, Baptiste Giabiconi, have been "sneaking" around for all the paparazzi to "catch." Yawn and snore. We think Baptiste did a better acting job in those Magnum commercials.

Shoe lift

Espadrilles are a vacation staple, but colour-blocked flats demand to be seen on the city streets as well. It's all about yellow ankle straps, which lift the shoe miles above the $10 ones you scored in Spain.

METRO WORLD NEWS

On the Web

Everyday glamour — a la 'Gatsby' — returns as favourite fashion look for spring.

Trend of the week: white vs. floral brights

Fashion fight. Which trend will win in this spring style dust-up?

KENYA HUNT
Metro World News in London

Head-to-toe white in London... MICHELLE BOBB-PARRIS

And in Paris. KARL-EDWIN GUERRE

Bright florals spotted on the street in Paris... GIIA TONICS

And in Milan. GIIA TONICS

Forget about the magazines for a second, and let's talk about the trends that women are actually wearing.

When it comes to updating your wardrobe for spring, there seems to be two schools of thought emerging on the street.

In the right corner: Team White. This is a look that is painfully easy to pull off (hurrah) and reliably chic.

A win-win, no? The trick is to wear it head-to-toe — like, ivory trousers and a matching blazer as a fashion forward update on the work suit or white shorts and a coordinating button-down as a light way to ease into spring.

Just don't eat any condiments with your lunch that day.

And in the left: Team Floral Brights — a look that was adopted by practically every fashion editor during last month's ready-to-wear shows. You can take the whole-hog approach by mixing them in different colour ways and layering them on generously or just dip one toe into the trend pool by limiting the print to a single pair of jeans or a skirt—the bolder the colour, the better.

Team White

H&M

Leather vest
$199, HM.COM

Team White

Mango

Tailored trouser
$63, ASOS.COM

Team Floral Brights

Carin Wester

Blouse
$150 PIXIEMARKET.COM

Team Floral Brights

Goldsign

Jeans
$225, NETAPORTER.COM

Team Floral Brights

Elizabeth and James

Pajama pants
$325, SHOPBOP.COM

Fresh faced. Spring into the season with a treat for your visage

While you spruce up your wardrobe for spring, give your cosmetics accoutrements a refresh as well.

BY JANINE FALCON, THE KIT.CA

Point Taken
You're only as precise as your tools. Sephora Pencil Sharpeners have a swing-out well to keep shavings neatly out of your kit. $6, sephora.com. Tweezerman Tweezers are pro favourites for getting at the tiniest strays. $30,sephora.com/canada

Eye Opener
Replace that old, loose lash curler you've had forever.
The Sephora Lash Curler comes in peppy metallic colours and gives a really good curve with its silicone pad. $19.
Or try the Dior Heated Lash Wand instead. $31, both at Sephora.

It's a Wash
Making up should always be good clean fun. Occasionally spritz Beauty So Clean Cosmetic Sanitizer Mist directly onto powder shadows, blushes and foundation to blitz bacteria build-up — it won't hurt the finish. $13, at drugstores and beautysoclean.com.

Clinique Makeup Brush Cleanser is handy when you don't have time for a thorough wash session. $17, clinique.ca.

Quo Toe Separators aren't just for your toes — they're also for brushes after you wash them. Watch the video to catch our drift. $3.29, Shoppers Drug Mart.

GET ALL THE LATEST BEAUTY KNOW-HOW WAT THE KIT INTERACTIVE MAGAZINE, AT THEKIT.CA

Make your own fabric coaster with the English paper-piercing method

The finished product — now reward yourself with a cuppa. COURTESY ANDREA SADGROVE

DIY ideas. Using a simple paper template, you can create a handmade cup rest

As a child, artisan Andrea Sadgrove made tiny quilts from felt scraps for her toys. Her love of sewing developed into Liligo — a business making children's clothes from recycled and organic cottons.

For this week's DIY, Sadgrove shows Metro readers how to do the English paper-piercing method. She enjoys the portability of this quilting technique as it is done by hand.

Step 1: Cut out seven one-inch hexagon templates from paper (you can buy pre-made templates, or find some on the Internet). Using a ruler and pencil/chalk, cut seven fabric squares, each measuring 2.5 inches (you can make a template from cardboard, or buy these read-made from a quilting supply store or online).

Step 2: Pin a paper hexagon to the centre of each fabric square. Fold down the fabric as shown and baste around the entire hexagon, taking care to stitch through the fabric only, not the paper.

Step 3: Repeat with the remaining six hexagons and fabric. Stitch the hexagons together using a whipstitch or ladder stitch, again taking care to just sew through the fabric layers, not the paper.

Step 4: Press well. This is your coaster top. Using the coaster top as a guide, draw around it onto a piece of felt (this will become your backing). Remove the papers from inside the hexagons; you can reuse these for more coasters. Sew the backing to the quilt top, wrong sides together, using a coordinating thread so that stitches do not show.

What you'll need:

- **Sewing stuff.** Scissors, pins, needle, thread
- **Assorted fabric scraps.** Each piece should be large enough to cut out a 2.5-inch square (seven squares in total)
- **Drawing tools.** Ruler and pencil/dressmaker's chalk
- **Felt.** It should be around a six-inch square for the back of the coaster. "I recommend 100 per cent wool felt as it doesn't shrink when washed, has a good feel to it and is environmentally friendly. You can use eco-felt if you wish, as it also doesn't shrink, but it's generally not as thick and is more shiny, so more slippery," says Sadgrove.

STEP 1 COURTESY ANDREA SADGROVE

Step 2 COURTESY ANDREA SADGROVE

Step 3 COURTESY ANDREA SADGROVE

Step 4 COURTESY ANDREA SADGROVE

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Ham & Cheese sandwich gets a bistro feel

Chef Melissa Craig of the Bearfoot Bistro in Whistler, B.C., created this delicious grilled cheese sandwich for a recent competition in Toronto.

This recipe serves six. THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

Ingredients

- 1 rustic ciabatta bread
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) olive oil
- 250 g (8 oz) Swiss cheese
- 270 g (9 oz) smoked or Black Forest ham
- 1 bunch arugula leaves
- Cracked black pepper

Tapenade

- 60 g (2 oz) sun-dried tomatoes, soaked
- 30 g (1 oz) kalamata olives
- 1/2 clove garlic, chopped
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) capers
- 35 ml (25 ml/1/8 cup plus 10 ml/2 tsp) olive oil
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) Parmesan cheese

1. Chop tomatoes, olives, garlic, capers. Place in a bowl. Add olive oil, stir in Parmesan and finish seasoning with pepper. Set tapenade aside.

2. Preheat grill to low heat. Slice ciabatta bread straight across into round disks about 1 cm (1/2 inch) thick.

3. Assemble each sandwich with Swiss cheese, ham and arugula. Lightly brush both sides of bread with olive oil. Lightly grill each side of sandwich over very low heat. Remove from grill and place on plates with 5 ml (1 tsp) of tapenade on top.

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metro

Crashing out of contention

NHL. Math isn't looking good for Jets after loss to Rangers in third-straight defeat at MTS Centre

Alexander Burmistrov tries to jam a puck past Rangers goaltender Henrik Lundqvist at MTS Centre on Wednesday night. JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ryan Callahan and Michael Del Zotto each had a goal and an assist as the New York Rangers dealt Winnipeg's slim playoff hopes another blow with a 4-2 victory Wednesday.

Brian Boyle and Derek Stepan also scored for the Eastern Conference-leading Rangers (49-21-7), while Marian Gaborik added a pair of assists.

Spencer Machacek and Bryan Little scored for the Jets (35-34-9), who sit in 10th place in the conference with 76 points.

Buffalo holds the eighth and final playoff spot with 84 points, while Washington is ninth with 82. Both clubs were idle Wednesday.

Henrik Lundqvist made 22 saves for the Rangers, while Ondrej Pavelec stopped 24 shots in the loss.

The Jets have five games remaining, all against conference opponents. They head out for a four-game road trip, starting in Carolina on Friday, and close out the regular season at home April 7 against Tampa.

The loss handed the Jets their first three-game losing streak at home this season.

Winnipeg had all three power plays in a scoreless first period, including a two-man advantage for 1:44, and outshot the Rangers 11-4.

The Jets went on the power play again 27 seconds into the second period on a boarding call against Boyle, but couldn't beat Lundqvist.

That soon changed with a pair of quick goals.

Machacek fired a shot between Lundqvist's pads at 3:58 and Little redirected a pass 56 seconds later for his 23rd goal of the season and a 2-0 lead.

The Rangers quickly responded with a short-handed and a power-play goal.

With New York centre Brandon Dubinsky in the box for slashing, Callahan took the puck behind the back of the net, spun around and sent a pass to Del Zotto in the slot, whose low shot went under Pavelec at 7:44.

Wednesday's game

Rangers	Jets
4	2

While Jets forward Alex Burmistrov was off for holding, Callahan scored his 28th goal of the season during a power play at 18:23.

Winnipeg captain Andrew Ladd was assessed a double minor for high-sticking 30 seconds later and New York opened the final period on the power play.

The Rangers had 15 shots on goal in the second, evening the teams' shots at 19-19 through two periods.

Just after Ladd's penalty expired, Boyle scored the game-winner when he tucked the puck between the goal post and Pavelec's stick at 3:07 to make it 3-2.

Stepan widened the gap 4-2 during a power play at 10:06.

New York was 2-5 with the man advantage and Winnipeg 0-5.

The Rangers have won all four games between the clubs this season, including two shutouts.

New York, which hosts Montreal on Friday, is the only Eastern Conference team the Jets haven't defeated this season. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Future Jets will help club take next step

THE HOCKEY NEWS
Rory Boylen
winnipeg@metronews.ca

So the first season back in Winnipeg is all but done and while the team will fall short of its goal to make the postseason, there is plenty of promise for the future.

In THN's recent Future Watch edition, the Jets' prospect pipeline ranked ninth in the NHL and featured two prospects in the top 75 overall (Mark Scheifele No. 7 and Patrice Cormier No. 55). But what Winnipeg has in store down the road goes much deeper than those two.

When talking about Scheifele, one shouldn't forget his teammate with the OHL's Barrie Colts, Ivan Telegin, who destroyed his personal bests in goals (35) and points (64) at the junior level. While progression at that level is to be expected — Telegin scored 21 goals in 2010-11 — a goal-scoring jump like that is intriguing. While the 20-year-old is a man playing among boys right now, when he graduates to the professional ranks next fall, Telegin's game will really be under the microscope.

More immediate prospects are Patrice Cormier and Paul Postma. While Cormier will likely never be a top-line scorer, his snarl will be welcomed on a team still in search of an identity and his size down the middle is something the Jets desperately need in the long-term. Postma, meanwhile, is second in team scoring with the AHL's St. John's IceCaps and a scout once told me his shot was the hardest in that league. The only thing going against Postma at this point is the depth and contract obligations the Jets have on the blue-line.

Hope at centre

"Patrice Cormier's snarl will be welcomed on a team still in search of an identity and his size down the middle is something the Jets desperately need in the long-term."

Further down the road are Carl Klingberg and Jason Gregoire. Klingberg is finishing up his first season in North America since coming over from Sweden and by all accounts it's been a success. While he wasn't much of a scorer in Europe, Klingberg showed signs of offence in St. John's and left fans with the notion that he could one day bring more to the Jets than originally thought. However, he will likely be given another year in the AHL before stepping up to full-time status in the NHL.

Gregoire is an intriguing prospect. Though his season was cut down due to a knee injury and his point totals weren't anything to write home about, his skating skill and hockey sense make you take notice. Like Klingberg, Gregoire will almost assuredly be in the AHL for at least one more season, but the fact he's a Winnipeg native should not be underrated in projecting when his NHL shot will come. Remember, this is a team that went out of its way to acquire Derek Meech and Eric Fehr.

And none of this mentions the fact the Jets team as it stands is very young. With only four players over the age of 30, none of whom are signed beyond next season, the players that kept this team in the playoff hunt for most of the season will continue to gain experience and, in turn, see their production and win totals rise.

Rather than looking back on this season as any sort of failure, Jets fans have to be looking forward to see their team is trending in the right direction.

4 SPORTS

Quoted

"It was very special to open in Japan. I wanted to have fun and give the fans something at this special time and wanted to share a special moment with them."

Ichiro Suzuki, who had four hits and plenty of attention as his Seattle Mariners beat the Oakland Athletics 3-1 in 11 innings Wednesday night in the Major League Baseball opener in his native Japan. A capacity crowd of 44,227 lit up Tokyo Dome with camera flashes every time Suzuki came to bat. He drew a standing ovation when he took his position in right field in the final inning.

Final Four

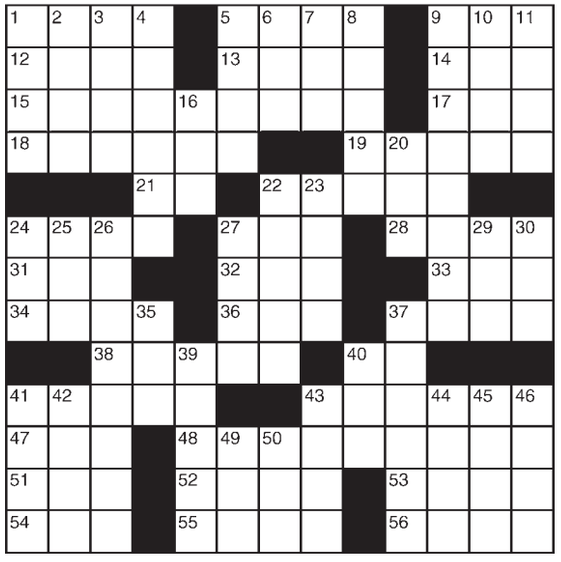
Never too old to fight for their team

Authorities say the Kentucky-Louisville basketball rivalry boiled over at a Kentucky dialysis clinic when one patient punched another during an argument about the teams. Georgetown police Lt. Robert Swanigan says the altercation began Monday with a verbal exchange between the 68-year-old Kentucky fan and 71-year-old Louisville fan. The men were arguing over who will win when the teams meet in the Final Four on Saturday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

LeBron James has a dislocated finger but, despite doctors' wishes, will take the floor for the Heat as the Dallas Mavericks return to Miami for the first time since winning the NBA championship last June at American Airlines Arena. Scan the code for the story.

Crossword



Across

1 Big bash
5 Virtue's opposite
9 Flop
12 Japanese sashes
13 Exotic berry
14 Compass dir.
15 With-drawing from office
17 "Cool" amount of cash
18 Ranking
19 Part of Hispaniola
21 Morning hour on a sundial
22 "Psycho" setting
24 Hospital furnishings
27 Space
28 Organization
31 Anger
32 Sailor's assent
33 "I" strain?
34 Tournament component
36 Leno's network
37 Wan
38 Reflec-tion
40 Pacino or Yankovic
41 Tangy cuisine
43 Ape
47 Yoko of music
48 "Ghost" co-star
51 To the — degree
52 Author Hunter
53 Pronto, in the ER
54 Family
55 Look for
56 Highland hats

Down

1 Pantheon figures
2 Help in a crime
3 Peru's capital
4 Unchanged
5 Cisterns
6 Here (Fr.)
7 Has the skill set
8 Square dance group
9 Cecil B. and Agnes
10 One
11 Sandwich shop
16 Formal wear
20 NRC predecessor
22 Perhaps
23 Oil cartel
24 Humongous
25 Geological time
26 Wicker-covered bottle
27 Group of hoods
29 "Yecch!"
30 Lad
35 Big Aussie bird
37 Not quite
39 South American range
40 Intention
41 Hit on the head
42 Oppositionist
43 Kitchen fixture
44 Greek vowel
45 Composer Khachaturian
46 Profits
49 Previous night
50 West of Holly wood

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Yesterday's answer

O	P	U	S			S	E	E		A	B	I	T	
R	O	S	E			P	O	I		D	U	D	E	
B	U	S	T	L	I	N	G			I	S	L	E	
S	T	R	A	I	N			H	Y	P	H	E	N	
				T	R	A			T	O	O	N		
F	A	B			A	C	T			U	S	E	U	P
O	V	U	M			H	O	P			E	L	K	A
R	E	S	I	N			P	H	D			L	E	M
			T	R	O	D			R	E	S			
S	P	A	R	S	E			A	M	E	L	I	A	
A	R	G	O			B	U	S	I	N	E	S	S	
F	O	U	R			U	T	E			O	D	I	E
E	F	T	S			G	A	S			H	A	T	A

Sudoku

	2		7		4	6	8	
					2			1
7						4		5
	7		9			1	3	
				8				
	8	9			6		4	
9		6						7
2			3					
	5	1	2		9		6	

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer

1	7	6	8	2	9	3	4	5
2	3	9	5	6	4	8	7	1
8	5	4	1	7	3	2	9	6
3	9	1	2	4	7	5	6	8
4	8	5	6	9	1	7	3	2
7	6	2	3	8	5	9	1	4
9	2	7	4	5	6	1	8	3
6	1	8	9	3	2	4	5	7
5	4	3	7	1	8	6	2	9

Send a kiss

- **a who.** I always thought love was about who can make you smile, who can make you laugh when you dont want to laugh, who can make you cry and who can make you do things for them you may not want to do at the moment. guessing i was wrong? jenny
- **Campbell Soup.** You must be used to me crying, you know my heart cant take no more i wont keep running back to you. thinking about my strength to finally get up and leave seems like i finally got my head on straight. cant wait to wake up everyday without you on my brain.. oh well proud to say i will never make that same mistake!! No Name Soup
- **Fall-apart-ers.** Here's to all the fall-a-parters, jesus loves you! Blessings for everyone! Never too late?
- **All lies.** Why didnt i listen to my heart when he had me guessing from the start, more and more i wonder why do i still want her after all the love i gave her but it wasnt mutual soo whatever then. And everytime the phone rings i wish it was your call, but that wont happen. From gullible

Weather

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MAX: 5° MIN: -2°	MAX: 11° MIN: 2°	MAX: 14° MIN: 5°

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

JENNA KHAN
WEATHER SPECIALIST
"Weather impacts everything we do. Providing the information you need before you head out that door and take on the day is the best part of my morning." **WEEKDAYS 5:30 AM**

Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20. Someone you meet will tell you something that may not mean much to you now, but it could be used to your benefit later on.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. You will talk your way out of trouble today but how did you get into this position in the first place?

Gemini | May 22 - June 20. You need to convince someone that you know what you are talking about and that you are serious about your aims.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22. You will have to do something you don't want to do, simply because someone else has the power to make you. Do it with a smile.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. With the Sun, your ruler, at odds with Pluto today, chances are you will have to do a lot of explaining.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. People who have an inflated sense of their own importance are often easy to influence and you can use that fact to your advantage today.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. It appears that someone has a grudge against you and you don't have the faintest idea why. The only way to find out is to ask.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. Someone in authority will give you a hard time today and you may be tempted to hit back at him or her in some way. Don't!

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. Someone is jealous of the attention you have been getting and would like nothing better than to see you take a fall.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. You don't have to exert yourself to any great extent today. You just have to persuade others to do things for you. Easy.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. Don't give someone the impression that you agree with what they say when, secretly, you disagree.

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. The whole idea of life is to try new things and that, inevitably, means making mistakes. Go out and make some more. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption Contest

"Ah, I think they're a size six and a half."
Tony

LIONEL CIRONNEAU/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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